

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A stent delivery system comprising:

- (a) an inner catheter, said inner catheter being provided with a first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (b) a perforating means slidably disposed in said first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (c) a distal tip including a plurality of distally located apertures, wherein one of the plurality of apertures is in communication with the first longitudinally extending lumen and is configured to receive the perforating means, and wherein the distal tip includes a proximal facing surface having an outer diameter;
- (d) an outer catheter, said outer catheter surrounding at least a portion of the length of said inner catheter and adapted for axial movement relative to said inner catheter, wherein said outer catheter has a distal end selectively disposed against the proximal facing surface of the distal tip and has an outer diameter substantially the same as the outer diameter of the distal tip;
- (e) a self-expandable stent, said self-expandable stent having a single-component structure formed from a single material and being disposed between said inner catheter and said outer catheter; and
- (f) wherein said outer catheter is dimensioned to maintain said self-expandable stent in a compressed state;

the system further comprising an endoscope, wherein the outer catheter is sized for receipt within the endoscope and the endoscope is configured for intraoral introduction.

25. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 31 wherein said self-expandable stent is coaxially mounted over said inner catheter.

26. (Currently Amended) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 24 [[31]] wherein said self-expandable stent is made of braided filamentary material.

27. (Currently Amended) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 24 [[31]] wherein said self-expandable stent is made of nonabsorbable material.

28. (Currently Amended) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 24 [[31]] wherein said self-expandable stent is made of nonabsorbable plastic material.

29. (Currently Amended) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 24 [[31]] wherein said self-expandable stent is made of bioabsorbable material.

30. (Original) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 24 wherein said self-expandable stent has a uniform expanded diameter.

31. (Currently Amended) A stent delivery system, comprising:

- (a) an inner catheter including a first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (b) a perforating means slidably disposed in the first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (c) a distal tip including a plurality of distally located apertures, wherein one of the plurality of apertures is in communication with the first longitudinally extending lumen and is configured to receive the perforating means;
- (d) an outer catheter surrounding at least a portion of the length of the inner catheter and adapted for axial movement relative to the inner catheter;
- (e) a self-expandable stent disposed between the inner catheter and the outer catheter, wherein said self-expandable stent is shaped to include a waist of comparatively lesser expanded diameter and a pair of cuffs on opposite ends of said waist of comparatively greater expanded diameter, wherein the pair of cuffs are adapted to engage a tissue located adjacent to the waist and disposed between the pair of cuffs to substantially limit longitudinal movement of the self-expanding stent; and
- (f) wherein the outer catheter is dimensioned to maintain the self-expandable stent in a compressed state;

the system further comprising an endoscope, wherein the outer catheter is sized for receipt within the endoscope and the endoscope is configured for intraoral introduction.

32. (Currently Amended) A ~~The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 31,~~
comprising:

- (a) an inner catheter including a first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (b) a perforating means slidably disposed in the first longitudinally extending lumen;
- (c) a distal tip including a plurality of distally located apertures, wherein one of the plurality of apertures is in communication with the first longitudinally extending lumen and is configured to receive the perforating means;
- (d) an outer catheter surrounding at least a portion of the length of the inner catheter and adapted for axial movement relative to the inner catheter;
- (e) a self-expandable stent disposed between the inner catheter and the outer catheter, wherein said self-expandable stent is shaped to include a waist of comparatively lesser expanded diameter and a pair of cuffs on opposite ends of said waist of comparatively greater expanded diameter, wherein said waist has an expanded diameter of about 8-10 mm, each of said cuffs has an expanded diameter of about 15 mm, and wherein each of said waist and said cuffs has a length of about 5-10 mm; and
- (f) wherein the outer catheter is dimensioned to maintain the self-expandable stent in a compressed state;

the system further comprising an endoscope, wherein the outer catheter is sized for receipt within the endoscope and the endoscope is configured for intraoral introduction.

33. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 31 wherein said perforating means comprises a retractable needle.

34. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system as claimed in claim 31 wherein said inner catheter is further provided with a second longitudinal lumen, said stent delivery system further comprising a guide wire slidably disposed in said second longitudinal lumen.

35-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) The stent delivery system of claim 32 ~~[[31]]~~, wherein the self-expanding stent is adapted to drain a gastric pseudocyst when implanted.

48. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 47, wherein the self-expanding stent has a diameter when expanded that is larger than a diameter of an endobiliary tube.

49. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 47, wherein the self-expanding stent has an expanded diameter of greater than about 8 mm.

50. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the outer catheter extends over a majority of the length of the inner catheter.

51. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 34, wherein one of the plurality of apertures is in communication with the second longitudinal lumen and is configured to receive the guide wire.

52. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the distal tip is configured to penetrate a tissue wall without the concurrent use of a guide wire.

53. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein one of the plurality of apertures is in fluid communication with a third longitudinal lumen and is configured to deliver a dye.

54. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the distal tip is integral with the inner catheter.
55. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the plurality of distally located apertures are distal to the stent.
56. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the plurality of distally located apertures are at approximately the same location longitudinally along the inner catheter.
57. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the plurality of distally located apertures face a same direction.
58. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the self-expandable stent is collapsible so that the stent can retract into the delivery system.
59. (New) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein the self-expandable stent is formed from a single material.
60. (New) The stent delivery system of claim 59, wherein the self-expandable stent is a single-component structure.
61. (New) The stent delivery system of claim 31, wherein each of the pair of cuffs has an inward facing surface for applying a longitudinal force to the tissue located adjacent to the waist and disposed between the inward facing surfaces of the pair of cuffs.
62. (New) The stent delivery system of claim 61, wherein the inward facing surfaces are configured to apply a compressive force to the tissue located adjacent to the waist and disposed between the inward facing surfaces of the pair of cuffs.